

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 2-8-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 2-7-55

WEATHER Temperatures were generally below normal, except for the first day which was rather warm. Moderate to heavy snow fell over the State Thursday and Thursday night. Amounts were heaviest in the southern portion of the State, but the snow was rather light over the southern portion of the Panhandle. Winds were only moderate, so drifting was rather light. There was very little wind during the coldest nights, so little suffering resulted from the low temperatures.

January was slightly colder than normal over the western half of the State and a little warmer than normal in the east, with average temperatures near normal for the State as a whole. The average precipitation was also very near normal. The distribution was very favorable also, with below normal amounts in the north-central and northeast, where little or no winter wheat is grown. Most stations in the wheat growing portions of the State received considerably more than normal moisture.

CROPS The outstanding feature of the past week was the further improvement in the outlook for wheat due to the snowfall that covered the entire State. Snow was a little lighter in the Panhandle and some blowing was experienced. Elsewhere, the snow carried generally from .40 to .80 of an inch of moisture. There was very little blowing of snow, except in the Panhandle. Northeastern Nebraska received the first good snow of the year.

The three snows, which the State has received since the first of the year, covered the entire wheat belt and improved greatly the winter wheat crop outlook. Except for a few areas in the west, there was very little blowing of snow from the fields, and it appears there will be very little if any loss of moisture after the snow melts. So far, the wheat crop has been protected from low temperatures and if the remainder of the season is favorable, wheat should get an early start next spring. The crop has made more than the usual development and has a splendid root system.

The grain feed supply is ample throughout the State, with very few exceptions and some of the counties are reporting a surplus. Concentrates are generally ample. Hay and forage supplies are generally ample, with some of the counties reporting a surplus and only a few counties reporting a shortage.

Nearly half of the counties now report an ample supply of moisture. The above normal amount of moisture received to date this year has staved off the threat of dust bowl conditions, which had started to develop the past year or two. However, the soil moisture is still short in western Nebraska and much more moisture will be needed.

LIVESTOCK A total of 1,800,000 cattle and calves were slaughtered in Nebraska in 1954, an increase of 8% over the previous year. Nationally, the percentage of increase was 7%.

Hog slaughter in Nebraska totaled 2,884,000 head, an increase of 6% over the slaughter in 1953. Nationally, hog slaughter was down 3%.

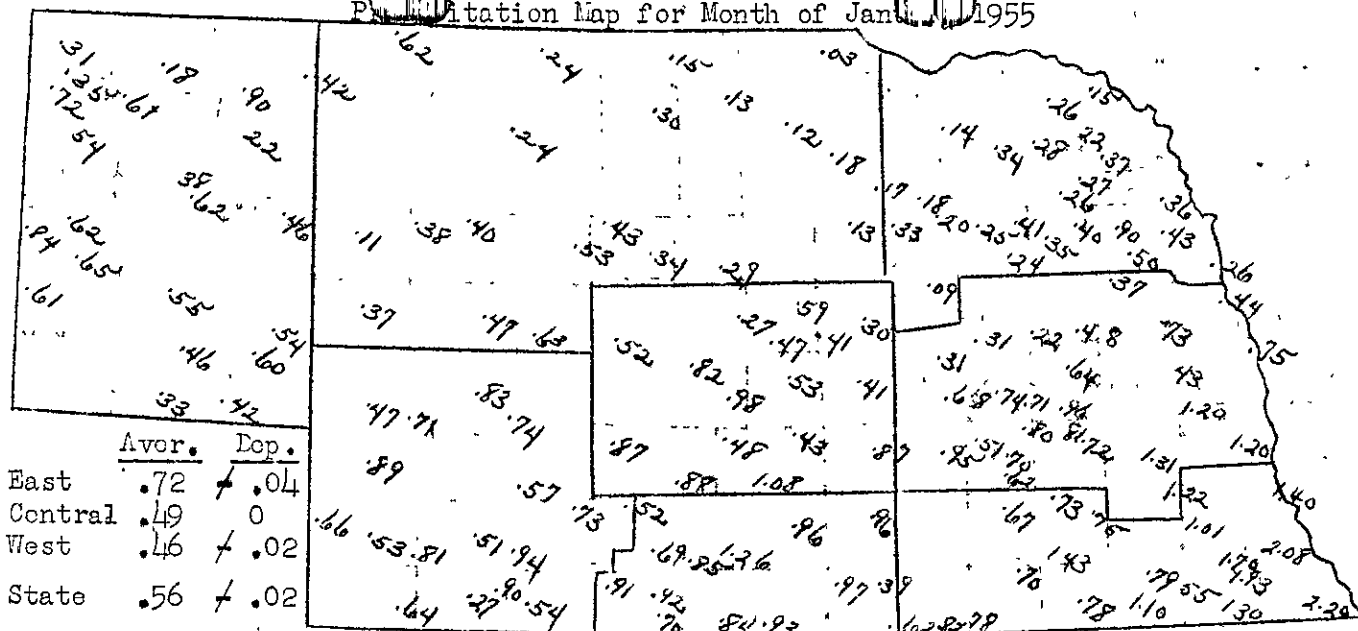
Nebraska sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 1,202,000 head last year, down 3% from the 1953 slaughter. Nationally, the slaughter of lambs and sheep was about the same last year as in 1953.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEB. 7, 1955

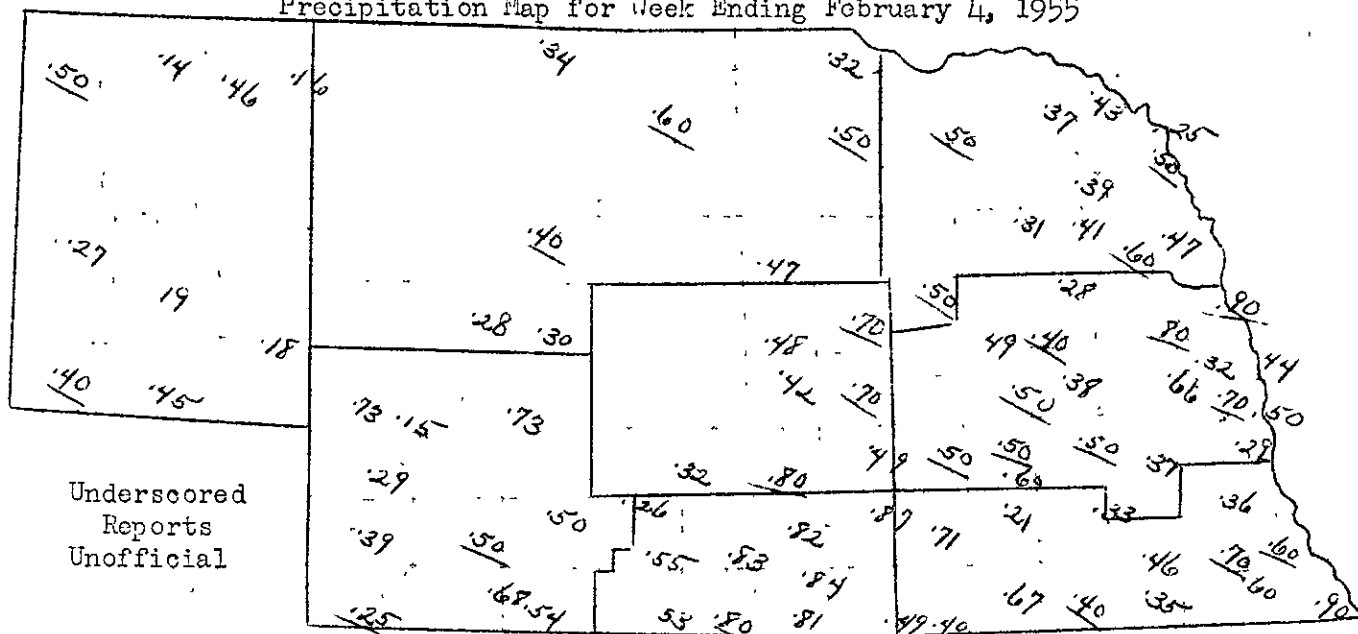
<u>Eastern Division</u>	<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island .49	Burwell .47	Chadron .14
Lincoln .37	North Platte .73	Imperial .83
Norfolk .31	Valentine .34	Scottsbluff .27
Omaha .44		Sidney .45
Sioux City .25		

1250
2-8-55

Precipitation Map for Month of January 1955



Precipitation Map for Week Ending February 4, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (High for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and low for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m., CST)

		February													
		1st		2nd		3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	46	26	47	25	39	24	28	0	25	-1	34	18	26	7
	Scottsbluff	43	27	47	31	34	20	25	-4	20	1	34	9	25	9
	Sidney	47	28	46	31	33	16	22	-5	23	8	33	8	26	1
N-C	Burwell	--	--	--	--	30	19	20	15	25	-2	31	-1	24	-11
	Valentine	45	27	39	23	28	19	21	11	19	-4	33	6	20	5
NE	Norfolk	43	25	30	14	25	18	22	17	25	1	25	-4	26	-9
	Sioux City	46	22	30	12	29	21	24	18	24	10	25	2	22	-7
CEN.	Grand Island	48	29	33	17	24	21	22	18	28	6	30	4	27	-6
E-C	Lincoln	44	26	32	15	27	24	25	21	27	10	30	5	29	5
	Omaha	41	22	31	12	26	15	23	18	22	8	24	9	24	9
SW	Imperial	43	30	45	25	30	17	21	13	25	5	39	12	26	2
	North Platte	43	30	39	23	27	18	20	14	20	2	34	0	23	-5

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